



Menominee County to receive State Aid

*Special to
Menominee Nation News*

MADISON – A budget provision pushed through by Representative Lorraine M. Seratti (R-Spread Eagle) in the amount of \$500,000 annually for five years is now on the way to Menominee County.

The budget provision for state assistance comes as a result of a seven-member task force formed to study the unique challenges facing Menominee County government operations. In conjunction with the Legislative Audit Bureau (LAB), the task force recommended creating a management assistance grant program for Menominee County. The funds are to be used in the areas of public safety, health, infrastructure, employee training and economic development.

"I'm truly pleased that Rep. John Gard (R-Peshigo) and Sen. Brian Burke (D-Milwaukee), the Joint Finance Committee Co-Chairs, demonstrated their support and leadership in pushing through a unanimous vote of the Committee," said Seratti.

Randy Reiter, Menominee County Board Chair, was present at the

Lacrosse Game brings back Menominee Tradition



LACROSSE—Students from Keshena Primary try their hand at Lacrosse during a break in the game. Although the weather was wet the days events continued on without a hitch. Please see additional photo and story on page 8.

L. Tucker/MNN

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ATHLETIC ACHIEVERS—MIHS students were recognized for their athletic abilities during a Spring Athletic Banquet on Tuesday. Above, Courtney O'Kimosh accepts the U.S. Army Reserve National Scholar/Athlete Award from Sgt. 1st Class Joe Kovach of Shawano. The same award was presented to Michael Kinepoway. More to follow in the June 1st issue of MNN.

Flags for Fallen Warriors to be handed out

Limited amount available

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KESHENA – The Menominee County Veteran's Office would like to ensure that all deceased veterans have a flag on their grave for the Memorial Day Observance.

Flags are now available at the Menominee County Veteran's Center located in the old Post Office.

Family members can pick up a flag for their deceased loved ones, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

For more information, feel free to call Louis Kakwitsch, Veteran's Service Officer, at 799-3729.

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meeting. "I think it's a good day for Menominee County. It's been a long haul. I'm happy that we're going to get this money. It's going to improve our county infrastructure greatly. This is the first time that I know of that our county has been awarded a grant from the state, and I'm very appreciative," said Reiter.

Seratti and Ron Corn, Administrative Coordinator for Menominee County, joined Reiter at the Joint Finance Committee proceedings on Wednesday, May 3rd. "This will allow us to improve our effectiveness, efficiency and infrastructure in providing services for Menominee County residents," said Corn. "For once, the state is actually listening to and helping local government in our small county."

Seratti, Menominee County officials and Tribal Chairman Apsenahkwat applauded the efforts of the former director of the LAB, Dale Cattnach and his staff, as well as John Rader of the Department of Revenue, and Rick Stadelman of the Wisconsin Towns Association for their assistance in the process.

"We are pleased that the state has recognized the unique situation here in Menominee County. We look forward to working with state and county officials to address our common concerns." Apsenahkwat stated. "We hope this will help to improve relations between the Menominee people and our neighbors."

According to Seratti, as a result of the LAB's examination of the county's financial practices, the county was urged to improve financial reporting, comply with open meetings laws and improve budgeting practices. Subsequently, the LAB has commented that Menominee County has 'taken a number of positive steps to improve their management and fiscal accountability to taxpayers.'

"This is a win-win for county government and property taxpayers alike," Seratti concluded.